

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of : **Sotaro ODA, et al.**

Filed : **Concurrently herewith**

5 For : **LAN SWITCHING METHOD AND LAN SWITCH**

Serial No. : **Concurrently herewith**

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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July 8, 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

15 S I R:

Prior to the issuance of an Office Action, please amend the specification as follows: